

REP. KATE HOGAN'S SENIOR NEWS



House FY22 Budget Highlights for Seniors

This spring, the House did its part to get Massachusetts' FY22 budgeting process back on track after last year's state budget was disrupted and delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The House deliberated and passed a \$47.7 billion budget that includes nearly \$60 million additional funds for local aid – all in effort to help the Commonwealth recover from the pandemic and build back to a new normal that is more resilient and equitable for everyone.

The House budget also increases the elder affairs budget by more than \$25 million. As my colleague Rep. Tom Stanley, House chairman of the Committee on Elder Affairs, says, "No group in the commonwealth has endured more loss and hardship over the past year than our elder citizens and the people who care for them. The pandemic has taught us hard lessons about what is and who are essential to securing a better, healthier future for our elder residents. As we look to the fiscal year '22 budget, we must recognize that there are important steps to take and programs to fund in order to accomplish these objectives. Seniors need increased mental health support to help bring them through these unprecedented times of stress, insecurity and loss. We must make workforce investments that recognize ... service workers as the essential elements they are in senior health delivery."

Here are some of the priority programs for Maynard seniors that received funding in the FY22 House budget:

FY22 House budget by the numbers for Maynard seniors:

- **\$75,000 for the Maynard & Acton Senior Shuttle**
- **\$253.5 Million for Community Choices which funds health cares services to seniors eligible for community-based waiver services under MassHealth**
- **\$184.8 Million for the Elder Home Care program, providing home health services to seniors aging-in-place**
- **\$35.8 Million for the Elder Protective Services program**
- **\$17.4 Million for Prescription Advantage drug insurance program**
- **\$17.7 Million for grants to Councils on Aging**
- **\$10.4 Million for the Elder Nutrition Program**
- **\$1.2 Million for the Home Care Aide Training Grant Program**
- **\$1.2 Million for Geriatric Mental Health programs including outreach, counseling, resource management and system navigation**
- **\$286K for Residential Assessment and Placement programs for homeless elders**
- **\$3.6 Billion for MassHealth Senior Care**
- **\$395 Million for MassHealth Nursing Home Supplemental Rates**

Contact Rep. Hogan: If you need assistance or would like to contact me, please call me at (617) 722-2199 or email me at Kate.Hogan@mahouse.gov. Please also visit my new Facebook page: www.facebook.com/RepKateHogan

Kate Hogan, State Representative

Proudly represents Bolton, Hudson, Maynard, and Stow

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